

From: [Eric Delgado](#)
To: [Heth Parnell](#); [Alex Byrum](#); [Eric Paisley](#)
Subject: Fw: Fires Near Los Alamos National Laboratory
Date: 06/27/2011 12:19 PM

Let me know the status of the equipment listed below

▼ Greg Fife

----- Original Message -----

From: Greg Fife
Sent: 06/27/2011 01:14 PM EDT
To: "Eric Delgado" <delgado.eric@epa.gov>
Subject: Fw: Fires Near Los Alamos National Laboratory

Fyi

Sent using BlackBerry

▼ Gregg Dempsey

----- Original Message -----

From: Gregg Dempsey
Sent: 06/27/2011 09:29 AM PDT
To: Jonathan Edwards; Michael Clark; Ron Fraass; Roger Goodman; Lee Veal; Mike Flynn
Cc: Dennisses Valdes; Dave Wright; Scott Hudson; "OLaughlin, Colleen" <OLaughlin@nv.doe.gov>; Epahq Eoc; LV R&IE All (OAR-LV); George Brozowski; Greg Fife; Sara DeCair; Jennifer Mosser
Subject: Fires Near Los Alamos National Laboratory

I was informed this morning by EPA Region 6 that a large forest fire is on a ski resort property near the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). Both the city of Los Alamos and LANL have been evacuated due to smoke. At this time LANL is not fire-affected. I am also sure that DOE is doing everything in its power to make sure LANL does not burn.

If the State of New Mexico requests assistance from EPA, it will most likely be later in the week. EPA Region 6 would be the lead, and I think that Greg Fife would be the lead OSC. As our response to the last fire at Los Alamos (Cerro Grande) in 2001 proved, we will need the "medium vol" 4" air samplers. The traditional 4" high vols used last time at the very beginning of that response smoke loaded and choked. As you may remember, the main problem at the Cerro Grande Fire in 2001 was that the fire storms on LANL property lofted loose dirt containing radiological contaminants, but that did not approach any guidance level for protective actions, and was just barely over detectable limits for plutonium. They were able to protect their buildings where radioactive materials were used. I would expect a similar situation again, if fire comes onto the property.

I am not aware if DOE has an interest in this from a FRMAC perspective at this time, but I am sure they are also monitoring the situation. LANL also has its own ambient radiation monitoring system.

ORIA laboratories: please give me a status of your 4" medium volume (or what you might call variable speed 4") air samplers. I need number available and when they will be going out of calibration.



I will inform you if there's any change in our response status.

Gregg Dempsey
Radiological Emergency Response Team Commander
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Radiation and Indoor Environments National Laboratory
Las Vegas, Nevada

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